

Agency Information

AGENCY : FBI  
RECORD NUMBER : 124-90064-10057  
  
RECORD SERIES : HQ  
  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : 87-15374-33

Released under the John  
F. Kennedy  
Assassination Records  
Collection Act of 1992  
(44 USC 2107 Note).  
Case#:NW 54462 Date:  
10-05-2017

Document Information

ORIGINATOR : FBI  
FROM : CI  
TO : HQ

TITLE :

DATE : 09/10/1951  
PAGES : 12

SUBJECTS :

VICTOR EMANUEL PEREIRA

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT  
CLASSIFICATION : Unclassified  
RESTRICTIONS : 4  
CURRENT STATUS : Redact  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 06/18/1998

OPENING CRITERIA : INDEFINITE

COMMENTS : RPT

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

EL PASO

FILE NO. 87-1753

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

|   |                |  |                    |
|---|----------------|--|--------------------|
| REPORT MADE AT  | DATE WHEN MADE | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE  | REPORT MADE BY     |
| CINCINNATI  | 9/10/51        | 8/4, 6-11, 13,<br>14, 28/51  | JOHN R. CURTIS D-3 |
| TITLE   |                | CHARACTER OF CASE  |                    |
| VICTOR MANUEL PEREIRA, wa. Victor<br>Perry, PAYLIVE; JAMES BRADLEY wa.,<br>wa. James Leigh (true name - UNKNOWN)<br>COPPERMAN |                | CONSPIRACY; INTERSTATE<br>TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN<br>PROPERTY; MAIL FRAUD |                    |

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Information received subjects defrauded Mrs. CHERTRULE JOYCE PEREIRA of \$47,000.00 and a 1950 Cadillac. Information developed subject PEREIRA residing with ex-wife at Kings Court, Columbus, Ohio. Kings Court determined to be a new apartment development and address to be 1789 Kings Court, Apartment F. Surveillances maintained at address unproductive as to location of subject. On 8/9/51 BONNIE CRANOR, subject's ex-wife appeared at Columbus Resident Agency, stated mother had told her subject PEREIRA in trouble, that FBI following her, and told her to come home immediately. BONNIE CRANOR appeared cooperative and furnished all telegrams and letters in her possession, as well as information regarding telephone calls which she had received from subject. Also signed a waiver of search of safety deposit box; deposit box examined, but nothing found. Subject apprehended by Bureau Agents, New York City, 8/11/51. After consulting with attorney, BONNIE CRANOR released 1951 Cadillac, H-516210296, but on advice of attorney refused to release furniture. Car stored, Merchants Garage, Columbus, Ohio, with understanding ultimate receiver to pay storage. *W*

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| APPROVED AND<br>FORWARDED<br>COPIES DESTROYED  | DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES       | RECORDED-44    |
| ① - JAY CONNELL<br>② - Bureau<br>③ - El Paso (1-USA)<br>② - New York<br>② - Cincinnati | 87-1753-1<br>1 SEP 13 1951<br>10 2 | SE-15<br>E-130 |

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\* AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED. \* 10-4446-1

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DETAILS:

AT COLUMBUS, OHIO

On August 4, 1951, the Kansas City Office advised that complaints had been filed before the United States Commissioner, El Paso, Texas, against both subjects, charging them with Conspiracy, Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property and Mail Fraud. These complaints were based upon information furnished by Mrs. GERTRUDIS JOYCE PEREIRA, Roswell, New Mexico, who stated that after a whirlwind courtship, she married subject PEREIRA in Kansas City, Missouri, on May 25, 1951, and that thereafter PEREIRA and LEE defrauded her of a total of \$47,000.00 and a 1950 Cadillac. A check for \$35,000.00 was transported interstate by PEREIRA and \$5000.00 by LEE. The mails were used in furtherance of fraud inasmuch as a check for \$35,000.00 was deposited for collection in El Paso bank for payment by Mrs. GERTRUDIS JOYCE PEREIRA's Los Angeles bank.

This teletype also advised that NORRIS STUDDA, an automobile dealer in Kansas City, Missouri, had advised that he sold subject PEREIRA a 1951 Cadillac sixty-two club coupe, motor number 515210293, with white sidewall General tires on key 23, 1951. STUDDA stated that he had received a telephone call about July 26, 1951, from subject PEREIRA who stated that he was residing in King's Court, Columbus, Ohio.

A search of the City Telephone Directory for the city of Columbus was made, however, no King's Court was located.

BUD DeHOFF, Owner of Skyline Motel, who is well acquainted with motels in the Columbus, Ohio, area, advised that he has never heard of a King's Court in Columbus, Ohio, and knows of no one by the name of KING who operates a motor court in Columbus, Ohio.

On August 6, 1951, while conducting another investigation, SA BERYLE C. SACKS noted a new street marker, reflecting a street by the name of King's Court, and he identified these courts as being a new apartment development owned by Mack Stewart, Inc., Columbus, Ohio.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA's BERNIE C. SMITH and DANIEL W. JOHNSON:

In 1951 two door blue, steel top convertible Cadillac, white sidewall General tires, bearing Oklahoma license 1-88838, was observed parked in front of a row of apartments at 1789 Kings Court.

Mrs. FERN WILCH, an employee of J. H. Stewart, Inc., 1031 Northwest Boulevard, Rental Office, advised that a Mrs. PERRY and her 3½ year old daughter reside in Apartment F at 1789 Kings Court. She advised that Mrs. PERRY has only lived at this address for a short time, is about 22 to 24 years of age, and has a husband whose name is VICTOR. Mrs. WILCH advised that Mrs. PERRY stated that they had come from Oklahoma, but that that was not their home and that they had previously lived in Texas and California. She also advised that Mrs. PERRY stated that her husband is a traveling man.

Mrs. WILCH advised that her daughter often is employed as a baby-sitter for Mrs. PERRY during the afternoons, and later on the afternoon of August 6, 1951, Mrs. WILCH advised that her daughter had worked that afternoon. On the daughter's return, Mrs. WILCH determined from her that Mrs. PERRY had received a telegram from her husband, but the details of the telegram were unknown. It is noted that this telegram was later determined to be a telegram for subject LEE from his attorney HUGH B. STRICK, Dallas, Texas.

Confidential Informant P-1, of known responsibility, stated that there is no way of tracing a telegram at the receiving office unless the city of origin is known.

Mrs. RACHEL NEWMAN, Main Office of J. H. Stewart, Inc., 1036 Chambers Road, advised that her records reveal that the rental agreement for the above apartment was signed July 2, 1951, by VICTOR PERRY. This apartment was rented on a month to month basis at \$110.00 per month. Mrs. NEWMAN advised that she has never seen the subject PERRY inasmuch as Mrs. CATHERINE J. STEWART dealt with Mr. PERRY in renting the apartment. Mrs. STEWART was away on vacation and contact could not be made with her. Mrs. NEWMAN stated that in all probability JACK STEWART has seen the subject inasmuch as he frequently makes inspection trips in this area in view of the present construction there.

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Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, agreed to advise daily information concerning mail received by Mrs. PERRY.

The rental agreement signed by the subject reflected his address as 608A Main Street, Dallas, Texas, and that his present landlord as residing at 470 West Pueblo, Reno, Nevada. His bank reference is given as the Ohio National Bank; trade reference as the Pittsburgh Steel Company, no city listed, and employment as self-employed, with a listed earnings of \$10,000.00 per year. This rental agreement also reflects that the subject moved into these apartments on July 3, 1951, and that garage #26 is assigned.

The following investigation was conducted by the writer:

MACK STEWART, Mack Stewart, Inc., 1036 Chambers Road, advised that he has seen VICTOR PERRY at the apartment which he rented, but that it has been several days since he has seen him. He advised that he has seen both a 1950 and a 1951 Cadillac parked in front of this apartment. Mr. STEWART also stated that he has seen the 1951 Cadillac, which is in the possession of Mrs. BONNIE PERRY, parked in the vicinity of the 2100 block on Harwitch and the 2100 block on Ridgeview.

Mr. WILLIAM CARVER, 1980 Harwitch, Ackley Real Estate Rental Office, made available a list of residents in this vicinity, however, it was later determined that none of these people are acquainted with the subject or the subject's ex-wife.

By teletype dated August 7, 1951, the Oklahoma City Office advised that a check with the Tax Commissioner's Office, State of Oklahoma, reflected that the above-referred to Cadillac is registered in the name of VICTOR PERRY with an address of Skirvin Hotel. The Skirvin Hotel registry reflects VICTOR PERRY and wife, Route 1, DeSoto, Mississippi, registered on June 20, 1951, only. The room clerk for this hotel does not recall PERRY and cannot describe him.

CIN-132, whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that there are no telephones installed in the building

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at 1734 Kings Court; however, an application has been received for a telephone installation in Apartment 5, but it will probably be September 1, or after before a telephone can be installed there.

A spot surveillance was maintained on the residence at 1734 Kings Court, Apartment 5, by SA's STEPHEN C. SAWYER and the writer, and it was noted that BONNIE PERRY C. SAWYER and the writer, and it was noted that BONNIE PERRY proceeded at about 2:00 p.m. on August 7, 1951, to an apartment at 2086 Ridgeway Avenue where she talked to a woman who occupies one of the apartments in this building. This person was later determined to be MARY EVA WALTER, who is a personal friend of BONNIE PERRY's sister, and it was determined that Mrs. WALTER attended high school in Reno, Nevada, with BONNIE PERRY's sister.

Mrs. WALTER, Rental Agent for the Kings' Court Apartments, advised on this date that she had no further information concerning the subject.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that VICTOR PERRY has a checking account located at the High-Town Branch of the Ohio National Bank. T-3 also advised that there is a safety deposit box rented in the name of VICTOR or BONNIE C. PERRY. Both these accounts were opened on July 10, 1951.

Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that a checking account was opened on July 10, 1951, by VICTOR PERRY with a \$1500.00 cash deposit. He also advised that upon opening this account the subject presented an Oklahoma driver's license as identification.

T-4 also advised that on July 17, 1951, a check made payable to HUGH STREET in the amount of \$110.00 was deposited by HUGH STREET on July 19, 1951, for clearance through the Texas Bank and Trust Company, Dallas, Texas. T-4 also stated that a check dated July 17, 1951, payable to MORRIS STUDNA for \$200.00, endorsed MORRIS STUDNA and R. L. JETT (spcl.) was cleared first by the Baltimore Bank, Kansas City, Missouri, July 25, 1951, and cleared by the Ohio National Bank as a collection item on July 27, 1951. T-4 promised to advise of any further activity concerning this checking account.

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On August 8, 1951, Confidential Informant F-4 advised that a check dated July 31, 1951, payable to the Bald Peak Colony Club, for \$217.92, signed VICTOR PARRY, had been received. This check was cleared through the Wolfeboro National Bank, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire, on the account of Pinehurst, Inc.

By teletype dated August 8, 1951, the Boston Office was advised of the above information.

On August 9, 1951, BONNIE CRANOR appeared at the Columbus Resident Agency and was interviewed by SA ETHEL C. SACHS and the writer. She, at the time of coming to the Columbus Resident Agency, stated that she had just talked to her mother who told her that the FBI was looking for VICTOR and that the FBI was following her all the time. She stated that her mother demanded that she come home immediately. It is noted that she was almost hysterical at the time of coming to the Columbus Resident Agency and was very upset to learn that there was a warrant outstanding for VICTOR.

She stated that in the latter part of June she had received a telephone call from subject PEREIRA in which he requested her to meet him in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, stating that he wanted to remarry her. She advised that they had been discussing remarriage for quite some time and that she agreed to meet the subject in Oklahoma City; however, in a later telephone call from the subject, he requested that she meet him in Kansas City, Missouri. She advised that she did meet the subject in Kansas City, Missouri, with the express idea and purpose of remarrying him. However, he told her at that time that he was in the process of having his name changed legally to PEREIRA and that they were moving to Columbus, Ohio, so that he could be more centrally located in his hotel supply business which he and LEE were conducting. She stated that a few days later they proceeded to Columbus, Ohio, where they, after two or three days, found the apartment that she is residing in at 1709 Kings Court, Apartment F. She advised that she and the subject then proceeded to buy furniture for this apartment, the most of which the subject bought himself and paid for in cash.

BONNIE advised that at the time the safety deposit box was opened, she saw VICTOR put in a stack of money, with a one hundred dollar bill on top and which appeared to be

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one and a half inches thick, into this safety deposit box. She also advised that he placed the title and insurance papers to the 1951 Cadillac in this safety deposit box.

CONNIE advised that the only thing she has taken from this deposit box was the car title and insurance papers. She stated that these were taken from the safety deposit box only after she had talked to her mother, and that she planned to immediately proceed to Reno, Nevada, on the advice of her mother. She stated that after she talked to her mother, she tried to call VICTOR at the addresses listed in the telegrams which she had in her apartment. She advised that upon not being able to reach VICTOR, she had telephoned JACK STREET, VICTOR's attorney at Dallas, Texas, at which time she asked him if he had heard from VICTOR. She at that time told STREET that VICTOR was in trouble and that she had talked to her mother on that date by telephone, at which time her mother told her to proceed home immediately. She also told STREET that her mother had advised her that the FBI was conducting a twenty-four hour surveillance on her. It should be noted at this point that no twenty-four hour surveillance had been conducted on Mrs. PERRY, and that only spot checks had been made at the residence.

She stated that at the time they moved to Columbus they were accompanied by subject LEE and a girl known to her only by the name of MARGE, who was pregnant by LEE, and that LEE had sent her to her home, place unknown, evidently to get rid of her.

CONNIE made available to SA SACKS and the writer, correspondence which she had received for subject LEE and for subject PEREIRA, also correspondence and telegrams which she had received from subject PEREIRA. In this correspondence there was a letter from Allen and Street, Attorneys, 603A Main Street, Dallas, Texas, postmarked July 26, 1951, forwarding a letter to JAMES B. LEE at the above address from F. J. SNELLING, 1010 Purdue, (woman's handwriting), Houston, Texas, on stationery of the Gulf Oil Company, Post Office Box 2140, Houston 1, Texas; another letter forwarded in an envelope of Allen and Street, Attorneys, postmarked August 1, 1951, to JAMES B. LEE, 603A Main Street, Dallas, Texas, which appeared to be a bill on a credit card with the Gulf Oil Company.

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Telegram dated August 6, 1951, addressed to J. B. LEE, 1769 Kings Court, "Call me on Sterling 3091 at once," 1039 B. STREET.

Telegram dated July 21, 1951, to Mrs. BONNIE PERRY from Manchester, Vermont, stating "Left Canada arrived here on way to Bald Peak Colony Club, Melvin Village, New Hampshire. First opportunity will fly in for two days."

July 16, 1951, telegram from P. W. BURRY from Monoir Richelieu, Quebec, Canada, advising that she was leaving there.

BONNIE advised that just prior to VIC's leaving Columbus, Ohio, they had had quite an argument because VIC kept putting off their remarriage. She stated that they had not been remarried and that in view of the trouble and inasmuch as VIC is apparently not planning to remarry her, she preferred to be known as BONNIE CRANOR, which is her legal name. She will hereinafter be referred to as BONNIE CRANOR.

On August 10, 1951, BONNIE CRANOR was re-contacted and requested to furnish a waiver of search for the safety deposit box in the name of VICTOR or BONNIE C. PERRY. BONNIE CRANOR furnished the writer a consent to search safety deposit box 3470 in the High-Town Branch of the Ohio National Bank, Columbus, Ohio, and accompanied Agent to this bank where the safety deposit box was searched. At the time of the search, this safety deposit box was empty. BONNIE again stated that the only thing she had removed from the safety deposit box was the title to instant 1951 Cadillac and insurance papers contained in the same envelope.

BONNIE CRANOR advised that she was not listed on the checking account of VICTOR PERRY at this bank, however, a checking account had been established for her by the subject at the Arlington Branch of the Ohio National Bank with a \$2000.00 deposit. She stated that at this time this account is down to approximately \$50.00

On August 11, 1951, BONNIE CRANOR was again contacted, at which time she made available a letter, which she had opened, addressed to subject LEE, this letter being from BLANCHE.

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STUART LEE, 105 West Fifty-fifth Street, New York 19, New York. In this letter BONNIE LEE appeared very bitter and sarcastic towards subject LEE and "warned" him not to contact either she or her parents again, stating "One should be allowed to forget after being divorced eight years."

By referenced teletype dated August 10, 1951, the El Paso Office stated that the United States Attorney's Office, El Paso, was of the opinion there was no legal basis existing at the present time for seizing and holding the furniture in the possession of BONNIE CRANOR and also the automobile in her possession. However, they requested that an attempt be made to have BONNIE CRANOR agree to the signing of a voluntary release of instant automobile and the furniture in her possession.

BONNIE CRANOR was contacted on August 11, 1951, at which time she was asked to release instant Cadillac and household furnishings, however, she advised at this time that she did not know what to do and stated that she desired to contact an attorney. She, at the time of contact, stated that she did not know where subject PEREIRA obtained the money to buy the furniture in her possession, and that she did not feel she had any legal right to release instant Cadillac due to her not being married to the subject. She stated at this time if the attorney she contacts advises her to release the furniture and automobile, that naturally she will do so.

BONNIE CRANOR was re-contacted on August 13, 1951, at which time she stated she had an appointment with A. GLENN McCULLY, an attorney, at 22 East Gay Street, at 3:00 p.m., on that date.

A teletype was received from the El Paso Division in which they stated Assistant United States Attorney HOLVEM WILLIAMS, El Paso, Texas, requested that instant Cadillac be impounded as evidence, with or without the permission of BONNIE CRANOR. This office deemed it advisable to wait until after contact had been made by BONNIE CRANOR with her attorney before taking any definite action concerning the seizure of instant automobile. This was deemed advisable inasmuch as BONNIE CRANOR had been very cooperative, and it was felt that any such action at that time would tend to aggravate the situation.

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On the afternoon of August 13, 1951, BONNIE CRANOR was re-contacted, at which time she stated that her attorney, A. GLENN McCLELLAND, 22 East Bay Street, Columbus, Ohio, had advised her to release instant automobile to the FBI, but stated that he did not advise her to release the furniture in her possession. At this time BONNIE CRANOR explained to the reporting Agent that subject PEREZIRA had in his possession a pawn ticket from Harford's Jewelry Company, Market Street, San Francisco, California, for three rings which she had pawned about February, 1951. She advised that at the time she met subject PEREZIRA in Kansas City, he had asked her where her rings were, and that she explained to him that she had pawned them. He at that time took the pawn ticket for these rings and stated that he would recover them. BONNIE CRANOR requested that this office request a certified copy of the original of this pawn ticket be returned to her so that she could recover her rings. In view of the facts that BONNIE CRANOR appeared to be cooperative in instant investigation and voluntarily released the 1951 Cadillac involved in this case, the New York Office was requested to comply with the above request by letter dated August 24, 1951.

By teletype dated August 11, 1951, the New York Office advised that subject PEREZIRA and subject LEE, whose true name is EUGENE H. BRADING, were apprehended on that date in New York City.

On August 14, 1951, BONNIE CRANOR released to SA JOHN D. RYAN and the writer instant 1951 Cadillac five passenger coupe, motor number 516210295, bearing Oklahoma license 1-93838, and released Oklahoma title #D939540 to instant automobile issued to VICTOR PERRY on June 21, 1951, whose address was listed as Skirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. BONNIE CRANOR also released to Agents excise tax receipt for instant 1951 Cadillac in the name of VICTOR PERRY and insurance policy 439912 in the name of VICTOR PERRY with the Casualty Reciprocal Exchange, this policy being obtained from Kramer and Company, Insurance Brokers, Kansas City, Missouri. This policy was written for comprehensive, collision or upset and 5, 15, and 30,000 liability insurance. BONNIE CRANOR executed a release for instant automobile, and she was given a receipt for this automobile. The above-referred to papers are being retained.

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in the files of the Cincinnati Office until such time as the El Paso Office advises disposition of instant automobile and these papers. This automobile is stored under claim check 51277 in the Merchants Garage, 98 North Front Street, Columbus, Ohio. The matter of storage was discussed with H. E. THORNTON, Manager of the above-named garage, and he accepted this automobile with the understanding that the ultimate receiver of this automobile will pay all storage charges due. The storage rate was quoted by Mr. THORNTON as being \$1.25 per day, \$5.00 per week, or \$10.00 per month or fractions thereof.

At the request of the El Paso Office, BONNIE CRANOR was contacted regarding the purchase of the furniture in her possession. She was unable to furnish full data regarding the purchase of this furniture, however, she stated that the bulk of the furniture was purchased and paid for in cash by VICKY at White's Furniture Company and McDonald's Furniture Company in Columbus, Ohio. She stated that she did, however, purchase a few pieces of the furniture at McDonald's Furniture Store and three or four other small furniture stores, the names of which she did not remember. She advised that probably she did not spend more than \$500.00 for furniture she purchased for which she bought two bed room rugs, one bed room chair, one large bookcase, and two table lamps.

On August 14, 1951, BONNIE CRANOR was contacted, at which time the Broweridge Storage Company of Columbus, Ohio, was at 1709 Main's Court, Apartment 7, packing the furniture for shipment. BONNIE CRANOR advised that she was shipping instant furniture on the advice of her attorney, and that this furniture was to be delivered to Lawrence Warehouses, Sacramento, California. She advised that she planned to leave Columbus, Ohio, on that date for Reno, Nevada, where she can be reached at the home of her parents, 1470 West Pueblo, Reno, Nevada.

BONNIE CRANOR later on this date telephoned the writer to advise that she had been unable to obtain reservations, however, she was leaving Columbus, Ohio, via TWA Airlines on August 15, 1951.

All stops which have been placed in this case by the Cincinnati Office have now been removed.

- PENDING -

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AT NEW YORK

Will request the removal of subjects.

THE NEW YORK DIVISION

AT EL PASO, TEXAS

Will advise the Cincinnati Division what disposition is to be made of instant 1951 Cadillac.

Will report the prosecutive action in this case.

THE CINCINNATI DIVISION

AT COLUMBUS, OHIO

Will deliver title papers and release 1951 Cadillac on proper authorization of the court or the United States Attorney's Office, El Paso Texas.

DEFENDANT:

Confidential Informant T-1 is FRED SMITH, telephonist, Western Union, Columbus, Ohio, who desired his name be kept in confidence.

Confidential Informant T-2 is Mr. F. BURCHFIELD, telephone operator, 100 Main Street, Columbus, Ohio, who desired his name be kept in confidence.

Confidential Informant T-3 is F. E. CALIFORNIA, telephone operator, 100 Main Street, Ohio National Bank, Columbus, Ohio, who desired his name be kept in confidence.

Confidential Informant T-4 is GAY JAMES, telephone operator, 100 Main Street, First Town Branch of the Ohio National Bank, Columbus, Ohio, who desired his name be kept in confidence.

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